

NEWS FROM REBEL SOURCES.

RICHMOND PAPERS TO JANUARY 3.

A BATTLE NEAR PORT ROYAL.

THE REBEL FORCES DRIVEN BACK.

Seizure of the Savannah Railroad.

ANOTHER BOMBARDMENT BY FORT PICKENS.

UNION MOVEMENTS AT SHIP ISLAND.

SEIZURE OF BILOXI, MISS.

THE REBEL ARMY DEMORALIZED.

A NIGHT IN THE INDIAN COUNTRY.

PROCLAMATION BY GEN. FLOYD.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN RICHMOND.

REPROVAL.

We have received files of Richmond papers up to Friday morning, 3d inst., inclusive, from which we make the following highly interesting Budget of news:

THE YANKEES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Answered, Thursday, Jan. 2, 1862.

Private dispatches received, dated at Pointe-aux-Chênes, on yesterday, state that the Unionists attempted an advance from Port Royal Ferry, but were repulsed by the 1st Regt. of South Carolina Volunteers, under the command of Col. Jones. The Confederate loss was fifteen killed, and wounded. One Yankee was taken prisoner, but their loss otherwise is not stated.

It is reported here that there was a large fleet of Union vessels off Tybee (below Savannah) on yesterday.

[It is well to add to the above dispatch that it is reported here that the Government has received full information from Gen. Lee, in which he expresses full confidence in the ability of the forces under his command, to protect Charleston and Savannah from Union invasion, and also to prevent the Yankees from penetrating into the interior.]

ANOTHER VERSION.

The following is a dispatch to *The Richmond Examiner*:

VICTORY IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 1, 1862.

Fighting on the coast commenced yesterday. Thirty-five hundred of the enemy landed on the main, near Port Royal Ferry. They were met with the bayonet by two regiments of our troops. The Yankees fled precipitately, throwing away their arms as they ran. They were driven into their boats. The howitzer on the beach opened fire on our troops, killing six and wounding twelve South Carolinians. The enemy's loss is about the same.

To-day, the enemy landed in much larger force at the same place. Gen. Gregg's brigade fell back a short distance to an eligible position. The pickets were skirmishing all day.

The enemy design an attack on the railroad, and cannot avoid a battle.

The Richmond Examiner, under the head of "War Rumors," says:

There were various reports during yesterday of invasions of the enemy in Western Virginia and of an advance movement of his forces in the direction of the Greenbrier Springs. The Western country has been left, by the transfer of our forces from there, in a defenseless condition, and should the enemy be able to make any serious demonstration before the Spring, there will be but little to oppose him. The reports referred to above are, however, probably exaggerated, if not entirely sensational.

Later in the day another report obtained circulation that a battle had been fought in the neighborhood of Fort Royal, S. C., and that the enemy, who were advancing inland, had been repulsed and a great victory had resulted to our arms. This report, although not authenticated by any dispatches received at the War Department, obtained considerable credit last night, on the strength of private dispatches, alleged to have been received in the city giving an account of the engagement. We are not disposed, however, to credit the report without further and more distinct confirmation of it than yet received.

P. S.—Since the foregoing paragraph was written, we have received a special dispatch from our Charleston correspondent fully confirming the report, to which we are happy to refer the reader. [See dispatch above.]

RENEWAL OF THE BATTLE AND DEFEAT OF THE REBELS.

Passengers from Richmond, who left that city on the 3d inst., state that news had been received there that Commodore Dupont landed thirty-five hundred troops on the main land near Port Royal Ferry on New-Year's Day. An engagement ensued, in which the rebels repulsed the Union troops. On January 2d the attempt was renewed with better success, and Gen. Gregg's South Carolina brigade was driven back with heavy loss.

The Charleston Mercury has a dispatch stating that a large force of Unionists had landed on the North Edisto, and seized railroad station No. 4 on the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.

THE BOMBARDMENT RESUMED AT FORT PICKENS.

MOBILE, Jan. 1.—A Confederate steamer, going from Pensacola to the Navy-Yard, was fired upon from the batteries at Fort Pickens. Gen. Bragg's batteries replied, and the firing still continued at his account.

[A dispatch was received on yesterday afternoon, in official quarters, from Gen. Bragg, undated on the 2d inst., in which he stated that Fort Pickens opened on a Confederate steamer on the day previous, and that the Confederate batteries replied, and firing from both sides continued all day. No vessels were engaged, and no casualties occurred on our side.

Gen. Anderson was in command, as Gen. Bragg was absent, but the latter returned very early on yesterday morning.]

The Unionists did not renew the attack on yesterday, and our guns were silent.]

FROM SHIP ISLAND.

The telegraph news reporter furnishes us the following:

A private dispatch was received here, dated at Mobile on yesterday, which stated that Gen. Butler is at Ship Island. The dispatch also states that the Unionists have nominal possession of Belvoir, and it is believed, will occupy the town as the next step.

They expected to capture it.

Biloxi, but there were no small arms there for them to seize. It is stated that they landed there from 5,000 to 7,000 troops, and it is further rumored that they express the desire to push forward their forces to Jackson.

MOVEMENTS OF THE ARMIES IN KENTUCKY.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 31.—(Via Mobile, Jan. 2.)—The Bowling Green correspondent of *The Union* and *American* states that after advancing to Horse Creek, the Unionists have withdrawn to Munfordville. The Confederate forces have also fallen back to Bowling Green, and are now near Bell's Tavern, and are still moving south, destroying the railroads as they fall back. The tunnel near Cave City was blown up on the 27th December, by order of the military authorities; and the railroad has been torn up for several miles. The Unionists are removing the rails from the track north of Cave City, and are obstructing the different roads leading to Munfordville with trees and other impediments.

An early engagement is no more probable now than it was three months ago.

Gen. Crittenden has fallen back to Calhoun, where, it is reported, he is preparing to go into Winter quarters.

LATEST WAR NEWS AND RUMORS IN RICHMOND.

From Papers of Dec. 2nd.

BIG BETHEL RETAKEN.

It is reported that the rebel forces at Big Bethel was attacked and defeated by Union troops, and that Big Bethel is now in our possession. It is certain, however, that both Magruder at Yorktown, and Hunter at Norfolk, have been largely reinforced recently.

A GREAT BATTLE AT BETHEL.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 3d inst. says:

"A private dispatch was received yesterday from Centreville by a prominent military officer now in Richmond, which says that indications point to an attack by the Union forces at an early day on Evansport, and the probability was that an attack would also be made by them on other points on the Potowmack."

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

Intelligence from Western Virginia represents that many of the best citizens of Raleigh and Fayette Counties have had to abandon their homes and seek refuge in Monroe, in consequence of the outrages perpetrated by invading parties of Yankees. Some have been captured by the foe, refused to take the orders of Major Phifer's Cavalry to swap the crossings of Green River, still further to my left.

These orders having been executed, and no force of the enemy or phifer's men, I advanced the column till the right reached the railroad. This brought me within three-quarters of a mile of the river and the enemy, but still concealed, except a small body of cavalry upon the extreme left. Here a company of rangers was detached to observe the enemy from Rockwood's Creek, which was to my right, across the railroad. A party of timber bordered the river parallel to the left bank by my cavalry. Fields were between a body of the enemy's Infantry, and skirmishers moved through the timber, by their right, on my left. They were fired upon by a small body of my cavalry, and retired. The firing ceased, for about half an hour, and I went in person to select a suitable place for camp, leaving Col. Terry in command, with instructions to drive the enemy in the 1st division, where I could use my Infantry and artillery with effect, and be out of the range of the enemy's batteries.

On Sunday morning two of the enemy's gunboats approached White Point, but, it is believed that this point of the island's maximization has been occupied by the enemy for the purpose of more effectively blockading us. The Yankees believe that our Commanders and many valuable cargoes have found exit in this direction. One of their movements consists in shelling the residences of the planters on both sides of the stream, and if their plan is even tenable, much property would thus be destroyed. But, fortunately, their gunnery is so bad, that as many as 20 shells are sometimes fired at a large house before "100" is made. Another less dangerous game is the killing of cattle with long-range rifles, and then sending the carcasses with an advanced party, to recover the "spoil."

On Sunday morning two of the enemy's gunboats approached White Point, and, after firing seven shots at Gen. Evans' pickets, retired.

The same Sunday I planned to reconnoiter, and encountered one of the blockading steamers. A number of shots were exchanged. In the enemy's left shot, but one of the shots from the Haines is believed to have taken effect. This, probably, accounts for the heavy firing which was heard yesterday afternoon.

It was mentioned on the creek, yesterday, that the enemy's blockade has been sounding Stone Inlet and Harbor bays in the channel.

The same Sunday, the 2d, everything was in a bustle, and the soldiers are very anxious for a brush with the Yankees.

This port was blockaded yesterday by a steamer, a bark, and a schooner, the last supposed to be a merchantman.

TEXAS WAR ITEMS.

The Galveston Daily News, of the 18th, says:

"Last night's mail brought us advices from the Rio Grande to the effect that a Lincoln steam propeller boat arrived and was blockading the river. She had captured and turned a schooner."

The fight was still progressing at Matamoras.

The State Gazette learns that a fire broke out in Gaetzort, on the night of the 18th inst., which destroyed property to the amount of about \$3,000,000.

No insurance.

The diphtheria is prevailing to an alarming and fatal extent in the Dallas region.

The Houston Telegraph remarks:

"Our friends at Galveston are in considerable of a stir over a report that Gov. Lubbock had written to Gen. Hobert, recommending the destruction of Galveston, if the city could not be defended."

ARABIAN'S WAR ITEMS.

The following extracts are from a private letter from Fort Gibson, and from a very trustworthy gunner who is驻守在那里的:

"Col. Smith and Capt. Walker and three men (Texas Rangers) and two men of the Arkansas Cavalry."

I estimated the enemy's loss at 75 killed and left on the ground; wounded, unknown. I have eight right of the enemy, of whom the semi-sabre attacked the Rangers, under Capt. Forrest, upon the turnpike, and were repelled with heavy loss.

The enemy now began crossing by regiments, and moving along on my right and left flanks. These companies of Col. Forrest's (1st Ark.), stalwartly were thrown out as skirmishers on my left, engaged the enemy's right, and drove them to the river. I now ordered forward Capt. Swift's battery and the 1st Ark. to support it, holding the 2d Ark. in reserve.

The enemy now came on both sides. The enemy made no further attempt to advance, but knowing that he had already crossed the river in force, more than double my own, I led the horses of crossing additional forces, I withdrew my command to the rear, to meet the enemy, if disposed to advance. There being no indications of such an intention, I returned to my camp here, raising this place at 8 o'clock p. m.

My loss in this affair was as follows:

Col. Terry and three men of the regiment.

Brigadier General—Capt. Walker and three men (Texas Rangers) and two men of the Arkansas Cavalry."

I estimated the enemy's loss at 75 killed and left on the ground; wounded, unknown. I have eight right of the enemy, of whom the semi-sabre attacked the Rangers, under Capt. Forrest, upon the turnpike, and were repelled with heavy loss.

The troops under my command who were engaged displayed courage in excess. The others were as steady as veterans.

Reportedly, Col. Smith, 2d Ark. Cavalry, Brigadier-General.

Col. D. C. V. V. of the Arkansas Regt., 1st Division, Cavalry of Kentucky.

The following is a dispatch to *The Richmond Examiner*:

THE GEORGIA TROOPS.

The General Assembly of Georgia has passed an act authorizing all volunteers and enter troops in the service from that State to vote at all elections, without reference to the place where they may be in service at the time of such elections.

1862.

THE ENLISTMENT OF TROOPS.

We feel perfectly justified in saying, from information in our possession, that fully seven-eighths of the Virginia troops now in service will return when their present terms expire.

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